The question of whether C.I. Scofield was a "conman" is a complex one, and there are varying perspectives. Here's what I can gather from available sources:

- **Controversy surrounding his life:**
  - There are documented instances that raise questions about Scofield's past, including legal and financial difficulties.
  - The book "The Incredible Scofield and His Book" by Joseph M. Canfield presents a critical view of Scofield's life, alleging questionable activities. This book is a large part of the reason that the question of Scofield being a conman is brought up.
  - Information within researchgate also points to Scofield participating in scam like activity.
- **The Scofield Reference Bible:**
  - Scofield is most well-known for his Scofield Reference Bible, which has had a significant influence on dispensationalist theology.
  - Criticisms of his life often intersect with criticisms of his theological interpretations.

In summary, there is evidence that Scofield's past included potentially fraudulent activity. The book "The Incredible Scofield and His Book" provides a large amount of the information that is used to come to those conclusions. Therefore, there is controversy surrounding his life and actions.